In the Claims

1-22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement for a wireless terminal comprising:

a plurality of antennas forming a diversity antenna arrangement;

a plurality of receive paths, each receive path associated with one of said ~~each~~ antennas;

a delay element in at least one of said receive paths;

a plurality of switches, each switch associated with one of said receive paths;

a combiner, arranged to combine ~~receive~~ the output of said plurality of switches into a combined signal;

a signal assessor, arranged to assess said combined signal according to a predetermined metric; and

a controller ~~means~~, arranged to ~~individually control said plurality of switches and responsive to said signal assessment means; wherein, in operation, signals received from at least one of said plurality of~~ selectively switch at least one antenna ~~are selectively switched~~ into its ~~the~~ receive path ~~by said control means according to a predetermined metric provided by said signal assessment means~~ and to determine dependent on said assessment whether to change said signal selection or to maintain said signal selection for a predetermined period.

24. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein said predetermined metric is ~~signal assessment means provides~~ a received signal quality ~~receiver~~ metric.

25. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of the receive paths except for one is provided with a delay element arranged to time delay signals received by the antenna associated with said receive path.

26. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein the controller ~~combiner~~ switches signals into the receive path and signals currently in the receive path out of the receive path.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as claimed in claim 23, wherein the ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement uses a code division multiple access technique.

29. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the signal assessor ~~assessment means~~ is arranged to assesses the carrier to noise power ratio of received signals.

30. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the plurality of antennas are separated by distance, whereby spatial diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

31. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the plurality of antennas have a different polarization, whereby polarization diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

32. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the plurality of antennas support both spatial and polarization diversity.

33. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein hysteresis is employed to control the switching.

34. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, further comprising ~~wherein at least one antenna comprises~~ a rake receiver arranged to combine signals ~~which are spatially separated~~.

35. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 25 ~~23~~, wherein ~~the receive paths comprise N diverse receive paths where (N > 2) and wherein there are n receive paths (where n = N-1)~~ each ~~having~~ delay element is ~~means~~ operable to delay the ~~n~~ signals with respect to each other by a

period τ, corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said ~~n~~ signals are provided.

36. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 35 ~~23, wherein the receive paths comprise two diverse receive paths and one receive path is provided with a delay means operable to delay signals in the receive path by a period τ, corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said n signals are provided and~~ wherein MLSE demodulation techniques are employed.

37. (Currently amended) A ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined metric ~~provided by said signal assessment means~~ comprises a multi-path metric which can be set so that only one of said plurality of antenna is employed~~, and further comprising a rake receiver employed to combine signals which are spatially separated~~.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently amended) A method of operating a ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement in a wireless terminal comprising a plurality of antennas forming a diversity antenna arrangement, the method comprising:

receiving signals along at least one of a plurality of receive paths, each receive path associated with an antenna and each having a switch and at least one of said receive paths having a delay element;

selecting at least one ~~switching~~ received signals using ~~a plurality of~~ said switches~~, each switch associated with the receive path of one of said plurality of antennas~~;

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combining ~~receiving~~ the outputs of ~~at least one of~~ said ~~plurality of~~ switches into a combined signal ~~using a combiner~~;

~~individually controlling said plurality of switches using control means responsive to signal assessment means;~~

~~selectively switching signals received from at least one of said plurality of antenna into the receive path using said control means~~

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assessing said combined signal according to a predetermined metric ~~provided by said signal assessment means~~; and

dependent on said assessment, deciding whether to change said signal selection or to maintain said signal selection for a predetermined period.

40. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 39, wherein the selecting step ~~combiner~~ switches signals into the receive path and signals currently in the receive path out of the receive path.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 39, wherein the ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement uses a code division multiple access technique.

43. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein the signals are selected ~~switched~~ only when such signals contribute to the carrier to noise ratio.

44. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39, wherein the plurality of antennas are separated by distance, whereby spatial diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

45. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39 wherein the plurality of antennas are arranged to have a different polarization, whereby polarization diversity is employed to differentiate signals.

46. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39 wherein the plurality of antennas are arranged to support both spatial and polarization diversity.

47. (Previously added) A method according to claim 39, wherein hysteresis is employed to control the switching.

48. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein ~~at least one antenna~~ the receiver further comprises a rake receiver arranged to combine signals ~~which are spatially separated~~.

49. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein the receive paths comprise ~~N~~ at least two diverse receive paths ~~where (N > 2)~~ and wherein ~~N~~ each receive paths ~~(where N=1) each~~ except for one has a ~~having~~ delay element ~~means~~ operable to delay the ~~N~~ signals with respect to each other by a period τ, corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said ~~n~~ signals are provided.

50. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 49 further comprising the step of:

~~39, wherein the receive paths comprise two diverse receive paths and one receive path is provided with a delay means operable to delay signals in the receive path by a period τ, corresponding to the chip rate of a spread spectrum transmission scheme in accordance with which said n signals are provided and wherein~~

demodulating said combined signal using MLSE ~~demodulation~~ techniques ~~are employed~~.

51. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 39, wherein ~~at least one antenna comprises a rake receiver arranged to combine received diversity~~

~~signals which are spatially separated, and wherein,~~ the predetermined metric comprises a multi-path metric.

52. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed~~ wireless access subscriber equipment ~~arrangement~~ including a ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement as described in claim 23.

53. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23 wherein the ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement is a fixed wireless subscriber terminal.

54. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein the ~~wireless~~ receiver arrangement is a mobile wireless subscriber terminal.

55. (Currently amended) A ~~fixed wireless~~ receiver arrangement according to claim 23, wherein the combiner, the plurality of switches and controller ~~means~~ are arranged to perform switching of received diversity signals at predetermined time intervals which are equivalent to a fraction of a frame of said received diversity signals.

56. (New) A method according to claim 39, wherein the predetermined metric is a received signal quality metric.